

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### **Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Re-Opening**

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967(D) of the Administrative Procedure Act, which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, and R.S. 56:6.1 which provides the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries with authority to declare a closed season on any and all species of fish found or existing in the waters of the state, and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on May 6, 2010 which granted the Secretary the authority to open any area, or re-open any previously closed area, of inside waters to shrimping based upon biological and technical data, the Secretary hereby opens to all recreational and commercial fishing: that portion of state outside waters seaward of the inside/outside shrimp line as described in R.S. 56:495 from the eastern shore of the Empire Canal at 89 degrees 36 minutes 19.9 seconds west longitude eastward to the western shoreline of Sandy Point Bay at 89 degrees 30 minutes 12 seconds west longitude and that portion of state inside waters from the eastern shore of the Empire Canal eastward to 89 degrees 30 minutes 12 seconds west longitude and that portion of state inside waters south of 29 degrees 13 minutes 12 seconds north latitude and north of 29 degrees 10 minutes 16 seconds north latitude from the western shore of Bayou Lafourche westward to the eastern shore of Bayou Grand Caillou at 90 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds west longitude effective sunrise, Friday, May 14, 2010.

The Deep Horizon drilling rig accident has resulted in a significant release of hydrocarbon pollutants into the waters offshore of southeast Louisiana and these pollutants have the potential to impact fish and other aquatic life in portions of these coastal waters. Efforts have been made and are continuing to be made to minimize the potential threats to fish and other aquatic life. As a precaution, these areas had been closed to all recreational and commercial fishing by the Secretary on May 6, 2010 and May 10, 2010. Based upon the most recent information available, the Secretary has determined that this area can currently be re-opened.

Robert J. Barham  
Secretary